

**RALEIGH TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
AUGUST 9, 2012  
MINUTES**

The Raleigh Transit Authority met on Thursday, August 9, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, Room 201 of the Municipal Building, Raleigh, N. C., with the following present:

Chairman Joseph Springer, presiding  
Corey Branch  
Gerry Cohen  
Jason Horne  
Roger Kosak  
Regina Price  
Craig Ralph  
Les Seitz  
Jane Thurman

Staff present: David Eatman, Mike Kennon, Scott McClellan, Lindsey Pinnell, Carmalee Scarpitti

Chairman Springer called the meeting to order with discussion and actions taken as shown:

**RECOGNITION – JOANN SATTERWHITE**

Mr. Eatman introduced Joann Satterwhite who is retiring from CAT. Ms. Satterwhite was also the first female CAT bus driver hired. Her career began in 1977 and she provided many years of service. Mr. Eatman stated she had the honor of seeing CAT locate to the new facility on Blount Street as well as the new facility on Poole Road. She was presented with a resolution from the Raleigh Transit Authority as well as a letter from the Mayor.

Mr. McClellan indicated Ms. Satterwhite is one of the few people you run into during a career that is utterly special noting she had been a very dedicated and valuable employee. He stated she had been a mentor to many CAT operators and felt she would continue being a mentor. Mr. McClellan indicated lives had been much better since touched by her presence. He urged Ms. Satterwhite to travel safely.

**AGENDA – APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

No changes were made to the agenda; therefore, without objection the agenda was approved as presented.

## **MINUTES – JUNE 14, 2012 – APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

Members received in their packets a copy of the June 14, 2012 minutes. Mr. Seitz moved approval of the minutes as presented. His motion was seconded by Ms. Thurman, unanimously passed. Chairman Springer ruled the motion adopted.

## **FARE FREE DAYS – TRY TRANSIT WEEK – APPROVED**

Ms. Pennell reported Try Transit Week begins this year on September 17, 2012 noting this is a week where we get non commuters to Try Transit. She reported the following days have been requested as a Fare Free Day during Try Transit Week 2012:

- Tuesday, September 18, 2012 – Rack and Ride Day: Those who ride their bike to a bus stop and ride a CAT bus will ride for free.
- Thursday, September 20, 2012 - Rider Appreciation/Fare Free Day: Fare Free for all who ride a CAT bus.

Mr. Eatman reported this has been approved by the Authority annually and recommended approval by the Authority.

Mr. Ralph moved approval of Tuesday, September 18, 2012 and Thursday, September 20, 2012 as Fare Free Days as outlined. His motion was seconded by Mr. Kosak, unanimously passed. Chairman Springer ruled the motion adopted.

## **RELOCATION OF R-LINE STOP 16 – APPROVED**

Mr. Eatman reported relocation of R-Line stop 16 and a change in the daytime route of the R-Line was being requested due to local business concerns relating to loitering around the Wilmington Street entrance to Moore Square Transit Facility. Police have not been able to enforce “no loitering” due to the frequent stops by the R-Line. Mr. Eatman recommended revising the R-Line daytime route to be consistent with the evening route. This would involve removing the R-Line stop in the 200 block of Wilmington Street and the bus zones will now be used for regional bus services. This change would allow the police to better enforce the loitering since the bus service would not be as frequent. Mr. Eatman pointed out the locations involved on a map available at the meeting. He indicated this also serves multiple TTA routes and noted at any one time could have R-Line and 2-3 Triangle Transit busses there. He further explained this is in the historic Downtown area with narrow sidewalks and not much room for stacking pedestrians making it difficult to get out of Moore Square. Mr. Eatman explained this would be contingent upon approval for a parking schedule change by the City Council on this block which would take one parking space and make the bus stop between One Exchange Plaza to Moore Square and would be dedicating the bus stop on the south side of the crosswalk as well. The R-Line stop is being moved noting R-Line serves that stop every 12 minutes. Mr. Eatman noted the proposal is not an optimum solution for R-Line but

because of all the activity going on in that area felt this is the best move to make under the circumstances. Staff is embarking upon the full Moore Square renovation project and did receive the environmental clearance this week. Once that is complete, they are waiting to determine if they can get pre-award authority which should come in months and then will be ready to move forward on renovations. Before that happens, the tunnel project is moving forward to provide a more pedestrian friendly environment. This involves adding lighting, improving the brick walk and sprucing the area up to be sure it is attractive. Mr. Eatman stated that block is going through transformation and wants to be sure the Moore Square facility makes a good presentation. He was not sure this will be long term noting as improvements are made, there will be other opportunities for solutions. Mr. Eatman pointed out where the R-Line stop will be located on the south side of Martin Street and will also serve p.m. route. He explained what is being done is dispersing individuals catching that route in one location and providing 3 options for where to catch the bus. In response to questions, Mr. Eatman anticipated 3-5 minutes increase in headway in the daytime route and would be a 15 minute rather than 12 minute headway. He emphasized this is not something staff designed because it is a perfect solution but the change is necessary due to the amount of congestion at the Moore Square entrance. He emphasized both the stop change and the parking change would have to be implemented at the same time.

Mr. Eatman indicated staff requests approval of the relocation of the R-Line stop 16 and the proposed change in the R-Line's daytime route contingent upon approval of the parking schedule change by the City Council at their next meeting. Mr. Ralph spoke to the need for placement of a shelter at that stop. Mr. Eatman indicated a shelter would be placed in this location.

Mr. Kosak moved approval of the relocation of the R-Line stop 16 and the proposed change in the R-Line's daytime route contingent upon approval of the parking schedule change by the City Council. His motion was seconded by Mr. Cohen, unanimously passed. Chairman Springer ruled the motion adopted.

### **2013 TRANSIT WORK PLAN – APPROVED**

Mr. Eatman reported an initial Annual Work Plan has been developed by staff. The Plan was developed from items listed in the existing Raleigh Transit Authority Committees and from work elements planned in the FY 2013 budget. He indicated the plan may not be entirely comprehensive but does provide a good overview of the major work elements to be undertaken in FY 2013. It is envisioned that this work plan will be a starting point and updated at an upcoming RTA retreat in October 2012. Members received a copy of the proposed work plan included in their agenda packets. Mr. Eatman explained the October retreat will provide the timing to build in any budgetary items brought up. The Plan can be amended by the Authority and proposed that each committee look at their individual assignments and recommend any amendments that can be discussed at the October retreat. Staff recommended adoption of the Work Plan with the understanding it can be amended at any time by each committee and the full Authority.

Mr. Seitz moved adoption of the Work Plan with the understanding the Plan can be amended at any time. His motion was seconded by Mr. Ralph, unanimously passed. Chairman Springer ruled the motion adopted.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS – RECEIVED**

Graham Oliver stated he would like the Authority to persuade the Wake County Commissioners to reconsider their position relating to the referendum for the local options sales tax for public transit. He stated this is definitely needed. Durham County approved this sales tax and Orange County is going to approve it when they have their vote. He stated with growth in Wake County, it is imperative that public transit get a fair shake.

#### **CAPITAL AREA TRANSIT SHORT RANGE TRANSIT PLAN – PRESENTATION – PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Staff provided an overview of Phase I of the CAT Short Range Transit Plan staff recommendations. Staff had reviewed all comments received to date and developed a list of final recommendations for implementation in January 2013.

Mr. Eatman explained the plan takes us through 2016. The early phases are budget neutral. All bus stop signs will be replaced throughout the City and shelters upgraded. The out years documentation is on line and hard copies would also be made available upon request.

Ms. Scarpitti highlighted Phase 1 service changes in detail. Phase 1 changes would add holiday services, simplify the route structure and remove poorly used services and reinvest resources. There is no additional funding in FY 2013 so the changes involve reallocation of current resources. She discussed the increased services to Route 1. Saturday and Sunday holiday levels of service were outlined. Ms. Scarpitti reviewed the map outlining what the current early morning services look like and reviewed changes. Evening service, Saturday and Sunday service changes were reviewed. Deleted services were reviewed and any replacement routes pointed out.

Chairman Springer declared the hearing open.

**Joseph Jones:** Mr. Jones stated many people work at Brier Creek and felt the proposal is a bad plan as it relates to that route. He noted leaving off Brier Creek would hurt everyone since many people work out there. There are a lot of new jobs in Brier Creek, RTP and Glenwood Avenue areas and these people need to get back and forth to work. He lives off Buck Jones Road and noted this area receives no Sunday service.

**David Avesh:** Expressed concern about changes to the 70E route. He wished that Raleigh would reconsider the new ART system and go back to using taxicabs. Urged placement of the ½ cent sales tax for transit on the ballot.

**Barbara Christensen:** She lives at the Sir Walter Apartments on Fayetteville Street and spoke relating to Route 2 going to WalMart on Wake Forest Road. She made a presentation to the “deputy finance lady” at WalMart suggesting it would be an opportunity to increase revenues by having more people shopping at that store and made a suggestion to the WalMart manager to install a shelter.

Ms. Christensen referred to Route 2 suggested after the bus crosses New Hope Church Road, it could turn onto Forest Ridge Road which loops down and comes back onto Wake Forest Road. This would allow riders to go to the Wake Forest Road WalMart rather than having to go to Garner. On that same route, there is a stop almost in front of Trader Joe’s and suggested that the stop be moved to in front of Trader Joe’s. She noted once you leave Trader Joe’s, it is impossible to cross Wake Forest Road to catch the return bus.

She then referred to the R-Line noting when it comes off Glenwood Avenue and turns left and comes down Martin Street and then at the corner of West Street, where it stops, there is a hole there. She also noted the Route 15 and Route 4 busses come to this stop just minutes before the R-Line gets to this point so there is no opportunity to catch the RLine and passengers have to wait until it comes back around or walk to their destination. She stated she would like this conflict to be resolved. Ms. Christensen also pointed out there is no public transportation to the Food Bank

**Barbara Jacobs:** Expressed appreciation for the bus services provided to the elderly noting she is 80 years old and can drive but preferred to ride the bus. She stated she lives in a complex located on Club Plains Road that is a complex with 32 seniors. She noted there is no Sunday bus service for Route 7C serving this area so these seniors cannot get to church on Sundays. She stated these residents would appreciate bus service on Sunday.

**Jess Smith:** Stated he is a frequent rider of transit and was disappointed there will be no many routes eliminated. It appears there will be more routes eliminated than added. He noted it seems the capital city of North Carolina should be adding rather than eliminating routes. He felt it would be better if the routes had never been added in the first place rather than taking them away. He felt riders would be more in favor of increasing the rates and keeping the same routes.

Mr. Smith referred to Route 33c evening route (Glenwood/Creedmoor connector) noting he lives off Duraleigh Road near Glenwood Avenue and eliminating this route during the evenings will adversely affect him. He indicated Route 6 will be extended but will not be extended late enough. He suggested that Route 6, which is the Crabtree bus), should leave Moore Square Station at 8:00, 9:00 and 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at least

and preferable also Saturday, allowing passengers to attend Downtown activities and still be able to ride the bus home. Mr. Smith stated Route 33c will not run in the evenings and unless Route 6 Crabtree is extended until later in the evenings it would take away his independence. He felt these changes will make things like they were before 2007 when this route was finally added on. He reiterated it is much better to raise the fare than eliminate a route.

**Jesse C. Whitaker:** Spoke relating to Route 35, Poole Road, noting the bus would not be able to serve people to their residences after 6:30 p.m. since the bus will not make a turn onto Sunnybrook Road but will continue to Downtown after 6:30 p.m. He indicated as an employee of the Employment Security Commission, he can take Route 15 but sometimes can't get that one. He pointed out if he does take Route 15 he has to get off at Kidd Drive/Sunnybrook. He stated it is dangerous to walk in this area at night. He requested that Route 15 be extended to go into Sungate. He noted he lives on Stoney Moss Drive. He felt the proposed changes are terrible.

**Willie Williams:** Indicated he lives on Western Boulevard and if he needs to be somewhere at 7:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, there is a bus; however, the bus doesn't pick up until 7:00 a.m. on Saturdays on Gorman Street/Western Boulevard (Route 12). If he has to get to work at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, he has to pay money for a taxi.

Mr. Williams stated he was also speaking on behalf of dialysis patients in the Wake County area. He expressed disappointment in the ART van program noting the last couple of times he was supposed to go to dialysis, he was left waiting at his house and did not get to dialysis. He explained patients have 3 ½ - 4 hour appointments and if they arrive late, they run over their time limit for the patients that follow. He spoke to the necessity for dialysis patients to be able to meet their appointments and to get home in a reasonable time for health reasons. It is important, particularly for diabetic dialysis patients, to get home as quickly as possible to eat, take insulin, etc. He urged evaluation of the van system or that it be discontinued and go back to using taxicabs.

**Jacqueline Jones:** Requested clarification on the changes on Routes 35 and 19. Ms. Scarpitti indicated they would have the same service they have now plus the addition of Sunday service.

**Rachel Martin:** Ms. Martin indicated she rides Route 23c occasionally and there are no more than 4-5 other passengers on the bus. She connects with Route 6 and goes to Townridge Shopping Center to work at WalMart. She then referred to Route 70e noting when she waits at Crabtree she sees a lot of people getting onto 70e to go to work. She indicated it is not fair to make the proposed changes to people that have to work on Saturdays which could jeopardize jobs. She stated more traffic will be going into Moore Square. She urged Authority members to go to Moore Square noting there is hustling, etc. occurring. Ms. Martin indicated since this is the capital city of North Carolina, she was expecting that 2 or 3 stops would be added to 70 e and not cut it off at certain hours, etc. She noted she has a license to drive but is scared to drive and depends on the bus. In



response to questioning, she indicated when she works on Saturday, the same people ride to work and felt the bus should pick them up earlier on Saturdays.

**Vernon Burkhart:** Mr. Burkhart indicated he lives on Bashford Road which is off Buck Jones Road. He is disabled but does go to work as much as he can. His work starts at 7:00 a.m. and he catches Route 28 at 5:05 a.m. Monday through Friday. This bus does not run on Saturday. To discontinue this would be a hardship for him and his other fellow passengers noting today there were 11 passengers which is normal on Monday through Friday. He questioned why it is necessary to increase Route 1 service to every 15 minutes noting during the afternoons he has to ride Route 1 and it is not packed. He pointed out there is also standing room on the busses and questioned why increase one route to every 15 minutes when other services around the City are being cut. Mr. Burkhart explained Route 11, which he would have to take if Route 28 is changed, does not come until 6:50 a.m. His roommate rides home at night on Route 28 and works in Townridge Shopping Center. Mr. Burkhart further questioned why busses are being cut that go to the mall and felt they should be increased. He also indicated those in his area have no service on Sunday and suggested adding service on Sundays and cutting service on holidays. He felt it is disturbing that the public cannot go Downtown at night since busses stop at 6:30 p.m. He suggested rethinking the new van pool program (ART).

**Willie Wyatt:** Mr. Wyatt lives on Sandy Forks Road and rides Route 29c (Falls of Neuse). He questioned when the changes occur noting he will then have to walk. Mr. Eatman indicated depending on how this public hearing turns out and decisions made by the Authority, the changes will become effective around New Years.

**Odis Lewis:** Mr. Lewis spoke relating to Route 23c noting he met with Ms. Scarpitti previously. He indicated he looked at this as a business decision and anytime something is cut, money is being taken away. He suggested reducing runs from Capital Boulevard to Crabtree from 25 to 6 and adding Sunday service. He indicated people need a way to get to the mall and workers need a way to get to work. He stated eliminating should not be done except as a last resort.

**Tony Kuntz:** Mr. Kuntz stated he had been riding the bus for a couple of months and noted it is a confusing issue particularly for new riders. He explained he had to take 7 busses to get to his destination in the beginning and felt simplifying would be a good thing. It took him 1 ½ months to figure out routes and he walked 1 ½ miles at night to get home from his bus stop. Mr. Kuntz suggested that Authority members hang out at Moore Square Station and ride the bus to the mall, to work, etc. He questioned if there had been any long term thought about creating a radial grid. He stated he lives in North Raleigh and cannot get to another part of the City without going through Moore Square Station a majority of the time. His commute takes him 2 hours each way. He further questioned if there had been any effort to expanding ridership noting ridership in North Raleigh is bad. He applauded the Authority's efforts and stated he would like to be a part of developing the long term solution.

**Octavia Rainey:** Ms. Rainey indicated she rides the bus a lot and complimented the recommendation for extending the evening service for Route 10 until 9:00 p.m. She also complimented the recommendation for holiday service. She expressed concerns with the van program noting dialysis patients are having difficulty with the changes. Ms. Rainey indicated these problems are serious for dialysis patients noting when they need to get to dialysis, they need to be punctual. She felt this problem may not be in compliance with ADA requirements. When the system went to the use of vans, it caused a big health concern for these patients. She hoped the Authority would advocate getting these patients back on taxicabs in next year's budget. She explained her sister died as a result of dialysis problems and stressed this is a severe health matter and people die on dialysis. Ms. Rainey referred to Route 70e and did not know why it is eliminated on Saturday. She explained for the last 2 years on Saturdays she had been teaching seniors how to use the busses. These seniors go to Brier Creek on Saturdays. She expressed concern that a lot of the 70e riders may be going to The Healing Place and when it is eliminated they would have no way to get there. Brier Creek employees also need to ride there. She did not understand eliminating services to the mall and felt that is an economic issue. Ms. Rainey indicated something is wrong when the capital city is eliminating routes. Ms. Rainey then referred to information services relating to bus operations and noted many times there is no one to help passengers and felt the information services should be open as long as busses roll and provide accurate information. She emphasized when the information booth is closed there is no one to go to since the security people cannot answer questions. Ms. Rainey stated on Saturday, bus drivers are not equipped to tell passengers anything about CAT services which is a hazard. She stated the bus system is a long way from actually providing excellent service. Ms. Rainey stated the Police Department has stated they have diversity in their policies; however, the only two security officers are Caucasian. She stated what concerns her is in their contract, the City states there is a policy that there must be diversity. She indicated at Moore Square there should be security there that looks like the people riding the bus which are mostly African Americans and Hispanics. She further referred to the difficulty she has in understanding the Sunday schedule. Passengers should also be able to bring grocery bags onto the bus. Ms. Rainey questioned if the City is pushing mass transit, housing and jobs, why would trips to the mall be eliminated, limit the number of grocery bags allowed, etc. She questioned why children are not allowed free if they are over a certain height. Ms. Rainey indicated she always has to request that the driver lower the steps in order for her to enter and exit the bus and stressed lowering the steps is a courtesy and felt it is crucial for the drivers to lower the steps for passengers. She indicated benches are too small and hold only two people and should be taken out and replaced noting those provided by private entities are nicer. Ms. Rainey also requested that something be done about the Moore Square Station problems.

**Rebecca** : Suggested that the Brier Creek bus going to WalMart also go to Target and make a loop. She indicated she was nearly struck by a car walking to Target from WalMart or she has to wait until 3:00 p.m. when Route 6 goes to Target.



Chairman Springer closed the hearing.

Mr. Branch requested a copy of suggestions made with a staff recommendation on all recommendations. Mr. Ralph indicated the suggestions could then be referred to the Route Committee. Mr. Cohen indicated some of the suggestions may be inconsistent with the overall plan to be revenue neutral but some suggestions may be accommodated. He felt some of the suggestions were potentially workable. Mr. Kosak indicated the number of bags allowed on the bus is something that the Finance Committee discussed and that item could possibly be referred back to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Eatman indicated all comments would be compiled and distributed to members. The Route Committee could then review them and be prepared to make recommendations at the September Authority meeting. Mr. Ralph indicated the Route Committee meeting would be scheduled when the comments are compiled. Mr. Eatman indicated at that point the Authority would make final determinations of what can be done with the current resources.

#### **STATE FAIR PARK AND RIDE 2012 – INFORMATION RECEIVED**

Mr. Eatman reported the State Fair will be held in October. Last year CAT transported over 80,000 passengers noting this is a great community service. This year CAT will no longer be able to access the Alcatel site on Wake Forest Road. Cary's Wade Med Soccer Park will continue to be used. Mr. Eatman reported this year CAT can use the very nice parking area behind the Old Westinghouse Facility on Capital Boulevard that has 550 spaces. He indicated an ad program will start prior to the fair advising the general public of this change. Hours for use will remain the same. Mr. Eatman indicated staff hated to lose the Wake Forest Road site since the general public is used to that site but it is exciting to move to the new large facility with good ingress/egress and a signalized intersection. Mr. Ralph suggested contacting NCDOT relating to the possibility of event signage on highways noting the previous week there was a sign on I-40 for a concert. Mr. Kennon indicated he will follow up on this possibility with NCDOT. Mr. Eatman indicated staff will report back on this at a future meeting.

The report was received as information.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE – NO REPORT**

The Finance Committee did not meet since the last regularly scheduled meeting. Mr. Eatman noted with adoption of the 2013 Transit Work Plan, all committees will be meeting this month in order to review items relating to their committees.

Discussion followed relating to the status of the pending item (No Smoking Policy at Moore Square Station). Mr. Kennon reported the City Attorney has the proposed policy for development of an ordinance that will be adopted by the City Council.

## **MARKETING COMMITTEE – NO REPORT**

Ms. Thurman reported the Marketing Committee would meet the following day. She complimented Ms. Pinnell on her work done on the website. Ms. Thurman indicated the meeting would be held at 10:00 a.m. in Room 419, Municipal Building.

## **ROUTE COMMITTEE – NO REPORT**

Mr. Ralph reported the Route Committee in the future would be meeting at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be scheduled when staff has prepared comments and responses to comments made at the Short Range Transit Plan hearing.

## **CAT & TRIANGLE TRANSIT POSSIBLE MERGER CONSIDERATION – INFORMATION RECEIVED**

Mr. Kosak indicated the possible merger of CAT & Triangle Transit will be discussed at the next Law and Public Safety Committee meeting and noted he will attend the meeting.

Mr. Kennon reported staff had been asked to bring a report back to the Law and Public Safety Committee meeting. Discussions took place with Triangle Transit, Durham and Chapel Hill and staff will be making recommendations on some things that can be coordinated better. This involved things such as better regional branding noting currently across the region busses have a small beeper sized Go Triangle at the door. Consensus across the region is branding should be discussed and TTA is taking the lead in that. Mr. Kennon stated if it is desired to move ahead with better regional branding, a common website may make sense and felt agencies should get together and discuss that also. He spoke to regional route numbering noting the Chamber of Commerce did leg work across the region about how to come up with regional route numbering. This would not change numbers but would assure the route numbers do not conflict with other areas. There will also be a regional fare study in the coming year since fares have not been increased since 2007 even with inflation and higher fuel costs. Staff recommends regional discussion relating to the best time and what the increase might be. Staff desires to continue quarterly meetings between CAT, TT, Cary and DATA to compare notes. Mr. Kennon indicated David King has been invited to the meeting and Authority members were invited to attend.

This report was received as information.

## **STAFF REPORTS – RECEIVED**

Members received in their agenda packets the following staff reports:

1. Statement of Income and Loss (May & June 2012)
2. Operating Statistics (May & June 2012)
3. Evaluation by Route (May & June 2012)

4. Productivity by Route (May & June 2012)
5. Variance Analysis (May & June 2012)
6. Go PASS Ridership Summary (May & June 2012)
7. Go PASS Ridership by Agency (May & June 2012)
8. Accessible Raleigh Transportation Summary (May & June 2012)

The reports were received as information.

#### **CONCLUDING REMARKS – RECEIVED**

Mr. Ralph referred to bus customers standing in the grass on Litchford Road and questioned who is responsible for cutting the grass at the bus stops. Mr. Eatman indicated this is the responsibility of the property owners.

Mr. Ralph referred to bad press received relating to the July 4 celebration Downtown. Mr. Kennon indicated he had spoken to convention center and police department representatives relating to the problems that occurred. Police Officers made decisions on what streets to shut down. He explained this was the first time this event was held Downtown noting everyone was ready to leave at one time. He indicated this needs to be handled better in the future.

Mr. Ralph questioned if Downtown Raleigh Alliance pays for advertising for races, etc. Mr. Eatman indicated this had not been brought up previously and suggested placing this in the Finance Committee to be sure it is resolved.

Mr. Ralph noted Councillor Weeks brought up during a City Council meeting the possibility of CAT providing bus service east of the CAT facility on Poole Road which would be new service. Mr. Kennon indicated he had provided Mr. Weeks with the funds required to accomplish this extended service.

Mr. Ralph referred to the issue of R-Line blocking traffic at Peace and Wilmington Streets noting an alternate location for that stop is being reviewed.

Ms. Thurman stated she was looking forward to discussing comments received at the hearing today and see what can be done.

Mr. Seitz stated he was looking forward to reading the Work Plan. He indicated he was glad staff could come up with regional coordination for the Law & Public Safety Committee.

Mr. Kosak indicated there needs to be prior planning for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.

Mr. Kosak thanked staff for keeping on top of all the items before the Authority noting there is a lot going on. He indicated it is very important that the Authority keep an open mind of getting additional resources for the CAT system and ADA system. He indicated

he was disturbed about the comments made relating to the ART vans and would like to receive a good explanation on those statements.

Mr. Kennon reported there were four busses running on July 4; however, the police closed streets and vehicles had to detour. Busses could not get to the passengers. He noted capacity was available but the busses could not get to the stops.

Ms. Price referred to comments received relating to the number of bags passengers could bring on the bus. She spoke to problems resulting including blocked isles, taking up seats, etc. She stated she was waiting to see what happens with that item.

Mr. Horne stated he had ridden busses several times and found the experiences pleasant. He thanked staff for their work. He noted he also had experience with the R-Line stop and the tall grass issue mentioned earlier. He indicated he liked the rendering of the red and white pattern proposed for the busses.

Mr. Cohen thanked staff for putting together the proposed route changes noting there are a lot of decisions to be made. He spoke to the need to balance people being benefited understanding people who will benefit with the increase may not show up at a meeting.

#### **STAFF COMMENTS – RECEIVED**

Mr. Eatman indicated a bus was available with the red and white colors as shown in the rendering provided to members. He indicated staff had been working on various ideas and would like to see a modernized fleet. 36 units will be replaced between now and 2016 and will start ordering between 7 & 8 busses per year starting in 2014. He indicated Ms. Pinnell came up with the paint scheme and was painted at paint booth at the new facility. He indicated staff is very interested in moving forward with this as we start procuring busses and having them delivered ready to go.

#### **CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS – RECEIVED**

Chairman Springer thanked Authority members for their hard work. He indicated good things relating to transit were heard at the Council Retreat. He thanked staff for their good work.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt

Raleigh Transit Authority  
August 9, 2012